

## REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

Form Approved  
OMB No. 0704-0188

1a. REPORT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION <b>FILE COPY</b>		1b. RESTRICTIVE MARKINGS <b>(2)</b>	
AD-A198 295		3. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY OF REPORT Approved for public release; distribution unlimited	
1b. RESTRICTIVE MARKINGS DULE		5. MONITORING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER(S) <b>AFOSR-TR. 88-0847</b>	
6a. NAME OF PERFORMING ORGANIZATION City College, CUNY		7a. NAME OF MONITORING ORGANIZATION Air Force Office of Scientific Research	
6b. OFFICE SYMBOL (If applicable)		7b. ADDRESS (City, State, and ZIP Code) <b>BA 410</b> Directorate of Mathematical & Information Sciences, Bolling AFB, DC, 20032-6448	
6c. ADDRESS (City, State, and ZIP Code) 138 Street and Convent Avenue New York, NY 10031		9. PROCUREMENT INSTRUMENT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER <b>AFOSR 84-0095</b>	
8a. NAME OF FUNDING/SPONSORING ORGANIZATION AFOSR		8b. OFFICE SYMBOL (If applicable) NM	
8c. ADDRESS (City, State, and ZIP Code) Bolling AFB, DC, 20332-6448		10. SOURCE OF FUNDING NUMBERS PROGRAM ELEMENT NO. 61102F PROJECT NO. 2304 TASK NO. <b>AS</b> WORK UNIT ACCESSION NO.	
11. TITLE (Include Security Classification) On a Correlation Inequality and its Applications			
12. PERSONAL AUTHOR(S) Mark Brown			
13a. TYPE OF REPORT <del>Technical Report</del>		13b. TIME COVERED FROM <b>3-87</b> TO <b>3-88</b>	
14. DATE OF REPORT (Year, Month, Day) March 29, 1988		15. PAGE COUNT 17	
16. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTATION <b>→ This document</b> <b>F (overlined)</b> <b>infinity</b>			
17. COSATI CODES FIELD GROUP SUB-GROUP		18. SUBJECT TERMS (Continue on reverse if necessary and identify by block number) Correlation coefficient; inequalities; NBUE, NWUE, IFRA, DFRA and DMRL distributions; Monte-Carlo simulation; renewal theory; reliability theory; record values; maintenance policies; Poisson processes; exponential approximations.	
19. ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse if necessary and identify by block number) <p>Consider a continuous distribution on <math>[0, \infty)</math> with cdf <math>F</math>, survival function <math>\bar{F} = 1 - F</math> and cumulative hazard function <math>H = -\ln \bar{F}</math>. For <math>F</math> NBUE it is shown that the correlation coefficient between <math>X \sim F</math> and <math>H(X)</math> is bounded below by <math>\sigma/\mu</math>, the coefficient of variation of <math>F</math>, while for <math>F</math> NWUE the correlation coefficient is bounded below by <math>\mu/\sigma</math>. Several applications of this inequality and its generalizations are discussed, including Monte-Carlo simulation of the renewal function, exponential approximation of DMRL distributions, moment inequalities for record values and a variance inequality for random event epochs in a homogeneous Poisson process.</p> <p><i>delta</i> <i>delta</i></p> <p><i>approx. =</i></p>			
20. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY OF ABSTRACT <input type="checkbox"/> UNCLASSIFIED/UNLIMITED <input type="checkbox"/> SAME AS RPT. <input type="checkbox"/> DTIC USERS		21. ABSTRACT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION Unclassified	
22a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUAL <b>May Brian W. Woodhuff</b>		22b. TELEPHONE (Include Area Code) <b>202-767-5027</b>	
22c. OFFICE SYMBOL NM			

88 8 25 09 L

DTIC  
ELECTE  
AUG 29 1988  
UNCLASSIFIED

AFOSR-TR. 88-0847

On a Correlation Inequality and its Applications

By  
Mark Brown  
The City College, CUNY

March 1988

Accession For	
NTIS GRA&I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DTIC TAB	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unannounced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Justification	
By	
Distribution/	
Availability Codes	
Dist	Avail and/or Special
A-1	



City College, CUNY Report No. MB84-04  
AFOSR Technical Report No. 84-04  
AFOSR Grant No. 84-0095

Abstract. Consider a continuous distribution on  $[0, \infty)$  with cdf  $F$ , survival function  $\bar{F} = 1 - F$  and cumulative hazard function  $H = -\text{Ln}\bar{F}$ . For  $F$  NBUE it is shown that the correlation coefficient between  $X \sim F$  and  $H(X)$  is bounded below by  $\sigma/\mu$ , the coefficient of variation of  $F$ , while for  $F$  NWUE the correlation coefficient is bounded below by  $\mu/\sigma$ . Several applications of this inequality and its generalizations are discussed, including Monte-Carlo simulation of the renewal function, exponential approximation of DMRL distributions, moment inequalities for record values and a variance inequality for random event epochs in a homogeneous Poisson process.

# 1. Introduction and Summary.

Consider a continuous distribution on  $[0, \infty)$ , with cdf  $F$ , survival function  $\bar{F} = 1 - F$  and cumulative hazard function  $H = -\ln \bar{F}$ . If  $X \sim F$  then  $H(X)$  is exponentially distributed with mean 1. The random variable  $H(X)$  measures lifetime by total hazard overcome until death, while  $X$  measures lifetime in ordinary time units. Since  $H$  is an increasing function we know that  $H(X)$  and  $X$  are positively correlated. The question of how positively correlated arose naturally in Brown, Solomon and Stephens (1981) and Brown (1987) in different contexts. In the former paper the asymptotic relative savings in risk between two Monte-Carlo estimators of the renewal function was given by the square of the correlation coefficient between  $X$  and  $H(X)$ . In Brown (1987), a quantity closely related to the correlation coefficient was needed to bound the distance between a DMRL (decreasing mean residual life) distribution and its stationary renewal distribution.

In this paper we show that for  $X$  NBUE (new better than used in expectation):

$$(1.1) \quad \rho(X, H(X)) \geq \frac{\sigma}{\mu}$$

while for  $X$  NWUE (new worse than used in expectation):

$$(1.2) \quad \rho(X, H(X)) \geq \frac{\mu}{\sigma}.$$

The lower bound on the correlation coefficient also aids in bounding the expected waiting time,  $E(S_2 - S_1)$ , between the first and second record values corresponding to an i.i.d. sequence  $\{X_i, i \geq 1\}$  with  $X_i \sim F$ . Using (1.1)

and (1.2) we show that for  $F$  NBUE:

$$(1.3) \quad \frac{\sigma^2}{\mu} \leq E(S_2 - S_1) \leq \sigma$$

and for  $F$  NWUE:

$$(1.4) \quad \mu \leq E(S_2 - S_1) \leq \sigma.$$

The quantity  $E(S_2 - S_1)$  represents the expected time to failure after the first minimal repair, and is of interest in the study of maintenance policies.

In section 3.4 inequalities are derived for the moments of higher record values. For example it is shown that if  $F$  is IFRA, and  $S_r$  is the  $r^{\text{th}}$  record value then:

$$(1.5) \quad \frac{\mu_{k+r-1}}{\mu_{r-1}} \leq ES_r^k \leq \binom{k+r-1}{k} \mu_k$$

where  $\mu_j = \int x^j dF(x)$ .

In section 3.5 we show that if  $\{T_i, i \geq 1\}$  are the arrival epochs for a homogeneous Poisson process with parameter  $\lambda$ , and  $N$  is a stopping time, then  $\text{Var } T_N \geq \lambda^{-2}$ . We further show that among all distributions with failure rate uniformly bounded above by  $\lambda$ , the exponential distribution with parameter  $\lambda$  has the minimum variance for the  $k^{\text{th}}$  record value, for  $k \geq 1$ .

## 2. A Correlation Inequality.

Consider a non-negative random variable  $X$  with continuous cdf  $F$ . Denote by  $X^*$  a random variable with cdf  $G(x) = \mu^{-1} \int_0^x \bar{F}(t) dt$ , the stationary renewal distribution corresponding to  $F$ . Let  $T$  denote a random variable with distribution  $dF_T(t) = t\mu^{-1}dF(t)$ .  $T$  is distributed as the length of the interval covering an arbitrary fixed point in a stationary renewal process with interarrival time distribution  $F$  (Feller (1971) p. 371). Since the backward recurrence time for a stationary renewal process is distributed as  $G$ , we see that:

$$(2.1) \quad T \sim X | X \geq X^*$$

where  $X^*$  is independent of  $X$ .

Next, consider the record value process corresponding to  $F$ . We take an i.i.d. sequence  $\{X_i, i \geq 1\}$  with  $X_i \sim F$  and define  $S_1 = X_1$ ,  $N_2 = \{\min i: X_i > X_1\}$ ,  $S_2 = X_{N_2}$ ,  $N_k = \{\min i: X_i > X_{N_{k-1}}\}$ ,  $S_k = X_{N_k}$ ,  $k=3,4,\dots$ . The sequence  $\{S_i, i \geq 1\}$  generates a non-homogeneous Poisson process with  $EN(t) = -\ln \bar{F}(t) = H(t)$  (Shorrock (1972)). Note that:

$$(2.2) \quad S_2 \sim X | X \geq X'$$

where  $X'$  is independent of  $X$  with the same distribution.

We now derive a useful result. Two proofs are given, as each is instructive.

Lemma 2.1. If  $F$  is NBUE (NWUE) then  $S_2$  is stochastically larger (smaller) than  $T$ .

Proof 1. F NBUE is equivalent to  $X \stackrel{st}{\geq} X^*$ . Now  $Z(x) = X|X \geq x$  is stochastically increasing in  $x$  ( $\Pr(Z(x) > t) = \bar{F}(tVx)/\bar{F}(x)$ , where  $aVb = \max(a,b)$ , and is thus increasing in  $x$ ) therefore  $S_2 = Z(X)$  is stochastically larger than  $T = Z(X^*)$  (see (2.1) and (2.2)). The NWUE case similarly follows.

Proof 2. Consider the record value process  $\{S_i, i \geq 1\}$ . If  $X$  is NBUE then  $E(S_k - S_{k-1} | S_1, \dots, S_{k-1}) \leq \mu$ , thus  $\{S_n - n\mu, n \geq 1\}$  is a super-martingale. Consider the stopping time  $N_t + 1$ , which is one plus the number of record values in  $[0, t]$ . Then:

$$(2.3) \quad ES_{N_t+1} \leq \mu E(N_t + 1) = \mu(H(t) + 1).$$

Define  $\delta(t) = E(X - t | X > t) = \mu \bar{G}(t) / \bar{F}(t)$ . Then  $ES_{N_t+1} = t + \delta(t)$  so (2.3) reduces to:

$$(2.4) \quad t + \delta(t) \leq \mu(H(t) + 1).$$

Now:

$$(2.5) \quad \bar{F}_{S_2}(t) = \Pr(N(t) \leq 1) = (H(t) + 1)\bar{F}(t)$$

while:

$$(2.6) \quad \bar{F}_T(t) = \Pr(T > t) = t\mu^{-1}\bar{F}(t) + \bar{G}(t) = \mu^{-1}\bar{F}(t)[t + \delta(t)].$$

The result now follows from (2.4), (2.5) and (2.6). The NWUE is handled analogously.

Lemma 2.2. If  $F$  is NBUE then  $\rho(X, H(X)) \geq \sigma/\mu$ . If  $F$  is NWUE then  $\rho(X, H(X)) \geq \mu/\sigma$ .

Proof. Note that  $dF_{S_2}(t) = H(t)dF(t)$  while  $dF_T(t) = t\mu^{-1}dF(t)$ . By Lemma 2.1:

$$(2.7) \quad ES_2 = E(XH(X)) \geq ET = \mu_2/\mu .$$

Now subtract  $\mu$  and divide by  $\sigma$  on both sides of (2.7) and the NBUE result follows.

Next, assume that  $X$  is NWUE. It follows from Lemma 2.1 that for any increasing function  $\ell$  (with the expectations existing):

$$(2.8) \quad E\ell(S_2) = \int \ell(x)H(x)dF(x) \leq \mu^{-1} \int x\ell(x)dF(x) = E\ell(T)$$

choose  $\ell(x) = H(x)$ , then:

$$(2.9) \quad EH^2(X) = 2 \leq \mu^{-1}E(XH(X)) .$$

From (2.9) the NWUE result easily follows.



### 3. Applications.

3.1. Monte-Carlo estimation of the renewal function. Suppose we wish to estimate  $M(t)$ , the expected number of renewals in  $[0, t]$  for a renewal process with interarrival distribution  $F$ , by Monte-Carlo simulation. An obvious approach is to simulate  $N(t)$ , the number of renewals in  $[0, t]$ ,  $K$  times  $(N_1(t), \dots, N_K(t))$ , and to estimate  $M(t)$  by the sample mean. In Brown, Solomon and Stephens (1971) an unbiased estimator  $M^*(t)$  was proposed and it was shown that as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  the asymptotic relative savings in risk between  $M^*(t)$  and the estimator based on  $N(t)$  was given by  $\rho^2(X, H(X))$ . Lemma (2.2) gives a lower bound on  $\rho$  and thus a lower bound on the asymptotic relative savings in risk.

3.2. Exponential approximation of DMRL distributions. Consider a continuous DMRL (decreasing mean residual life) distribution  $F$  on  $[0, \infty)$  with stationary renewal distribution  $G$ . In Brown (1987) it is shown that:

$$(3.2.1) \quad \mathcal{D}^*(F, G) = \sup |F(B) - G(B)| \leq 1 - EH(X^*)$$

where  $H = -\ln \bar{F}$ , the cumulative hazard function, and  $X^* \sim G$ . Now:

$$(3.2.2) \quad ES_2 = \int (H(t) + 1) \bar{F}(t) dt = \mu [1 + EH(X^*)].$$

But  $F$  DMRL implies  $F$  NBUE, thus (3.2.2) and Lemma 2.1 give:

$$(3.2.3) \quad ES_2 = \mu [1 + EH(X^*)] \geq ET = \mu_2 / \mu$$

thus:

$$(3.2.4) \quad EH(X^*) \geq \sigma^2/\mu^2.$$

From (3.2.1) and (3.2.4) we obtain:

$$(3.2.5) \quad \mathcal{D}^*(F, G) \leq 1 - (\sigma^2/\mu^2).$$

The inequality (3.2.5) thus extends the result of Brown (1987) from  $F$  IFR to  $F$  DMRL. Moreover it follows from (3.2.5), employing the methodology of Brown (1987) that for  $F$  IMRL:

$$(3.2.6) \quad \sup |\bar{F}(t) - e^{-t/\mu}| \leq 1 - (\sigma^2/\mu^2).$$

Thus if  $F$  is DMRL with coefficient of variation close to 1, then  $F$  is approximately exponential.

3.3. The second record value. Consider  $S_2 - S_1$  the interarrival time between the first and second record values in a record value process corresponding to  $F$  (equivalently the interarrival time between the first and second events in a non-homogeneous Poisson process with  $EN(t) = H(t) = -\text{Ln}\bar{F}(t)$ ). It follows from Lemma 2.1 that  $F$  NBUE implies:

$$(3.3.1) \quad E(S_2 - S_1) \geq ET - \mu = \frac{\mu_2}{\mu} - \mu = \frac{\sigma^2}{\mu}$$

while  $F$  NWUE leads to  $E(S_2 - S_1) \leq (\sigma^2/\mu)$ .

The quantity  $E(S_2 - S_1)$  is the expected residual life for an item which is minimally repaired at its first failure. It is of interest in the evaluation and planning of maintenance policies.

Lemma 3.3.1, below, presents an upper bound of  $\sigma$  for  $E(S_2 - S_1)$ , derived without aging assumptions of  $F$ . As is done throughout this paper we assume that  $F$  is a continuous distribution on  $[0, \infty)$ .

Lemma 3.3.1. Let  $X \sim F$  and  $g$  a function on  $[0, \infty)$  with  $Eg^2(X) < \infty$ .

Then:

$$|E(g(S_2) - g(S_1))| \leq \sigma_g$$

where  $\sigma_g$  is the standard deviation of  $g(X)$ . In particular the choice  $g(x) = x$  gives:

$$E(S_2 - S_1) \leq \sigma$$

where  $\sigma$  is the standard deviation of  $X$ .

Proof.  $Eg(S_2) = E(g(X)H(X)) = Eg(X)EH(X) + \sigma_g \sigma_{H(X)} \rho(g(X), H(X)) \leq Eg(X) + \sigma_g$ .

Thus  $E(g(S_2) - g(S_1)) \leq \sigma_g$ . Substituting  $-g$  for  $g$  yields  $E(g(S_1) - g(S_2)) \leq \sigma_g$  from which the result follows.  $\square$

Corollary 3.3.1. For  $F$  NBUE,  $\sigma^2/\mu \leq E(S_2 - S_1) \leq \sigma$ . For  $F$  NWUE,  $\mu \leq E(S_2 - S_1) \leq \sigma$ .

Proof. The NBUE case follows from expression (3.3.1) and Lemma 3.3.1. The NWUE case follows from Lemma 3.3.1 and the obvious NWUE inequality

$$E(S_2 - S_1) \geq \mu. \quad \square$$

A function  $g(x)$  on  $[0, \infty)$  is defined to be starshaped if  $\frac{g(x)}{x}$  is increasing (meaning non-decreasing). If  $g$  is non-negative and starshaped then  $g$  is increasing.

Consider, now, a function  $g$  which is non-negative and starshaped on  $[0, \infty)$ , with  $\mu_g = E g(X) < \infty$ . Define:

$$dF_g(t) = g(t)dF(t)/\mu_g .$$

Then:  $dF_g(t)/dF_T(t) = \mu_g^{-1} \mu(g(t)/t)$  which is increasing. Thus  $F_g$  is larger than  $F_T$  under the partial ordering of monotone likelihood ratio (Lehmann [1959] p. 73) and is thus stochastically larger. It follows that:

$$(3.3.2) \quad E[Xg(X)] \geq \mu_g \mu_2 / \mu .$$

Now assume that  $F$  is NBUE. By Lemma 2.1 and (3.3.2):

$$(3.3.3) \quad E g(S_2) \geq E g(T) = \mu^{-1} E(Xg(X)) \geq \mu_g \mu_2 / \mu^2 .$$

Thus for  $F$  NBUE and  $g$  non-negative and starshaped it follows from Lemma 3.3.1 and (3.3.3) that:

$$(3.3.4) \quad \frac{\sigma^2}{\mu^2} \mu_g \leq E(g(S_2) - g(S_1)) \leq \sigma_g .$$

The choice  $g(x) = x$  leads to the NBUE inequality of Corollary 3.3.1.

**3.4. Higher record values.** Let  $S_k$  denote the  $k^{\text{th}}$  record value in a record value process corresponding to  $F$  continuous. Since  $S_k$  is the  $k^{\text{th}}$  event epoch in a non-homogeneous Poisson process with  $EN(t) = H(t)$  it follows that:

$$(3.4.1) \quad dF_{S_k}(t) = [(H(t))^{k-1}/(k-1)!]dF(t)$$

and also that:

$$(3.4.2) \quad dF_{S_k}(t) = [H(t)/k-1]dF_{S_{k-1}}(t), \quad k \geq 2.$$

Consequently (from 3.4.2):

$$(3.4.3) \quad Eg(S_k) = (k-1)^{-1}E[g(S_{k-1})H(S_{k-1})].$$

Now  $H(S_{k-1})$  is gamma distributed with parameters  $k-1$  and  $1$  (the sum of  $k-1$  i.i.d. exponentials with parameter  $1$ ) thus  $ES_{k-1} = \text{Var } S_{k-1} = k-1$ .

Using the mean and variance of  $H(S_{k-1})$ , (3.4.3) and the upper bound for the product moment,  $EUV \leq EUEV + \sigma_U \sigma_V$  with  $U = S_{k-1}$ ,  $V = H(S_{k-1})$  we obtain:

$$(3.4.4) \quad Eg(S_k) \leq Eg(S_{k-1}) + (\sigma(g(S_{k-1}))/\sqrt{k-1}).$$

From (3.4.4) we obtain the following generalization of Lemma (3.3.1):

$$(3.4.5) \quad |E[(g(S_k) - g(S_{k-1}))]| \leq \sigma(g(S_{k-1}))/\sqrt{k-1}.$$

The case  $k=2$  corresponds to Lemma 3.3.1. However the more general inequality appears to be computationally useful only when  $k=2$ . For general  $k$   $\sigma(g(S_{k-1}))$  is no easier to compute than  $E(g(S_k) - g(S_{k-1}))$ .

We have no analogue of Lemma 2.1 for  $F$  NBUE or NWUE. However if we strengthen the restriction on  $F$  from NBUE (NWUE) to IFRA (DFRA) then we

obtain the following:

Lemma 3.4.2. Let  $F$  be a continuous IFRA distribution, and  $T_r$  be a random variable with distribution  $dF_{T_r}(t) = x^{r-1}dF(x)/\mu_{r-1}$ , where  $\mu_m$  is the  $m^{\text{th}}$  moment of  $F$ . Then  $S_r$  is stochastically larger than  $T_r$  and:

$$\frac{\mu_{k+r-1}}{\mu_{r-1}} \leq ES_r^k \leq \binom{k+r-1}{k} \mu_k.$$

If  $F$  is a continuous DFRA distribution with finite  $(r-1)^{\text{st}}$  moment then  $S_r$  is stochastically smaller than  $T_r$ . If in addition  $F$  has finite  $(k+r-1)^{\text{st}}$  moment then the above inequality reverses.

For  $r=2$  the above inequalities hold under the weaker condition that  $F$  is NBUE or NWUE.

Proof. Note that  $dF_{S_r}(t)/dF_{T_r}(t) = [H(t)/t]^{r-1}$  which is increasing as  $F$  is IFRA. Thus  $S_r$  is larger than  $T_r$  under the monotone likelihood ratio and is thus stochastically larger. Thus:

$$(3.4.6) \quad ES_r^k \geq ET_r^k = \mu_{k+r-1}/\mu_{r-1}.$$

Next:

$$(3.4.7) \quad \frac{H^k}{k!} dF \geq \frac{x^k}{\mu_k} dF.$$

Multiply both sides of (3.4.7) by  $H^{r-1}/(r-1)!$  and integrate obtaining:

$$(3.4.8) \quad \binom{k+r-1}{k} \geq \frac{1}{\mu_k} ES_r^k.$$

Thus  $ES_r^k \leq \mu_k^{(k+r-1)}$  and this inequality and (3.4.6) yield the IFRA result.

The DFRA case similarly follows. By Lemma 2.1, for  $F$  IFRA and  $r=2$ ,  $S_2 \stackrel{st}{\geq} T_2 = T$  which is sufficient by our above derivation for (3.4.6) and (3.4.8) to follow (with  $r=2$ ) .  $\square$

Note that the various inequalities derived above for record value processes hold more generally for non-homogeneous Poisson processes.

3.5. A variance inequality. Consider an absolutely continuous distribution  $F$  with failure rate function  $h(t)$  bounded above by  $\lambda$  ( $h(t) \leq \lambda$  for all  $t \geq 0$ ). Let  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  denote the first two record values in a record value process corresponding to  $F$ . The failure rate function of  $S_2 - S_1$  evaluated at  $t$  is a mixture of the values  $\{h(s), s \geq t\}$  and is thus bounded above by  $\lambda$  for all  $t$ . Consequently:

$$(3.5.1) \quad E(S_2 - S_1) \geq \lambda^{-1}.$$

By Lemma 3.3.1:

$$(3.5.2) \quad E(S_2 - S_1) \leq \sigma$$

where  $\sigma$  is the standard deviation corresponding to  $F$ . From (3.5.1) and (3.5.2) we obtain:

$$(3.5.3) \quad \sigma^2 \geq \lambda^{-2}.$$

Thus among all distributions on  $[0, \infty)$  with failure rate bounded above by  $\lambda$ , the exponential distribution with parameter  $\lambda$  has smallest variance.

Next, consider a homogeneous Poisson process on  $[0, \infty)$  with intensity  $\lambda$  and event epochs  $\{T_i, i \geq 1\}$ . Let  $N$  be a stopping time and consider the random variable  $T_N$ , letting  $h^*$  denote its failure rate function. Now:

$$(3.5.4) \quad h^*(t) = \lambda \Pr(T_N = t | T_i = t, \text{ for some } i) \leq \lambda.$$

Thus (3.5.3) and (3.5.4) imply:

$$(3.5.5) \quad \text{Var}(T_N) \leq \lambda^{-2}.$$

Note that  $\lambda^{-2}$  is the variance of  $T_1$  as well as the variance of  $T_{N(t)+1}$ , the time of the first event after time  $t$ . These event epochs have smallest variance among all random event epochs for the Poisson process.

The inequality (3.5.5) holds for a large variety of random variables arising in secondary processes generated by a Poisson process. These include counter models, queues with Poisson input and uniformizable Markov chains.

Also note that if the failure rate of  $F$  is uniformly bounded above by  $\lambda$ , then by Lemma 3.3.1 and the argument used to derive (3.5.1):

$$(3.5.6) \quad \lambda^{-1} \leq E(S_{k+1} - S_k) \leq k^{-1/2} \sigma(S_k).$$

Thus  $\sigma(S_k) \geq k^{1/2} \lambda^{-1}$ , the lower bound being achieved in the exponential case. Thus for  $k \geq 1$ , the exponential distribution with parameter  $\lambda$  minimizes the variance of the  $k^{\text{th}}$  record value, among all distributions with failure rates uniformly bounded above by  $\lambda$ . Equivalently, consider a non-homogeneous



Poisson process with intensity function  $\lambda(t)$  bounded above by  $\lambda$ . Then  $\text{Var } S_k \geq k\lambda^{-2}$  where  $S_k$  is the  $k^{\text{th}}$  arrival epoch. Thus among all non-homogeneous Poisson processes with intensity functions uniformly bounded above by  $\lambda$ , the homogeneous Poisson process with intensity  $\lambda$  minimizes the variance of  $S_k$ , for all  $k \geq 1$ .

References.

Brown, M. (1987). "Inequalities for distributions with increasing failure rate." Contributions to the Theory and Application of Statistics, A Volume in Honor of Herbert Solomon, p. 3-17. Academic Press, New York.

Brown, M., Solomon, H. and Stephens, M.A. (1981). "Monte Carlo simulation of the renewal function." J. Appl. Prob., 18, 426-434.

Feller, W. (1971). An Introduction to Probability Theory and its Applications, II, 2nd Edition. John Wiley and Sons, New York.

Lehmann, E.L. (1959). Testing Statistical Hypotheses. John Wiley and Sons, New York.

Shorrock, R.W. (1972). "A limit theorem for inter-record times." J. Appl. Prob., 9, 219-223.